

I urgently implore you NOT to relax the restrictions on media ownership, which you are currently considering. Previous (1996) relaxation of these restrictions has had major negative impact on media in all forms, and limits the sources from which we have access to information. I was always under the impression that the public airways belonged to the public. And yet, it is the public who will be hurt by these actions, and it is the public who is basically unaware these discussions have even been going on. And that "unawareness" is a direct result of the very '96 actions you are considering taking yet again. Who, if not you, is protecting our airwaves, our right to a level playing field, and balanced media?

The future of these actions is ONE company, ONE political point of view, ONE concept of art, ONE concept of taste, ONE set of advertisers, universal mediocrity, and media by the highest bidder. That frightens me.

I believe this is an issue of major proportions. I feel very strongly that such actions would be detrimental to the public good. Please do not loosen the restrictions. In addition, I respectfully request that you ask what WE, THE PEOPLE think.